

REMARKS

Claims 37-46 are pending in the application.

Claims 13-36 have been canceled and claims 37-46 have been added in order to more particularly point out, and distinctly claim the subject matter to which the applicant regards as his invention. It is believed that this Amendment is fully responsive to the Office Action dated **March 14, 2003**.

Claim Rejections under 35 USC §102

Claims 13, 14, 21, 22 and 24 are rejected under 35 USC §102(e) as being anticipated by Anderson (U.S. Patent No. 5,933,137).

Anderson describes a digital camera in which an original image is captured. Taking this original image, a scrennail (medium resolution) image is obtained and a thumbnail (low resolution) image is obtained. Compressed image data may be combined with the scrennail image and a thumbnail image to produce an enhanced image file.

The present invention is a digital camera in which a thumbnail image may be generated and stored based upon an original captured image. This, thumbnail image is generated based upon storing every eighth line of the original image.

According to the present invention, an imaging device images a subject and outputs first image data having a first resolution. The first image data outputted from the imaging device is intermittently written to a first memory by a first writer. A generator generates second image

data having a second resolution which is lower than the first resolution based on the first image data outputted from the imaging device, and a second writer writes the second image data generated by the generator to the first memory at intervals of writing by the first writer.

An intermittent writing of the first image data to the first memory, and a writing of the second image data to the first memory at intervals of writing by the first writer make it possible to shorten a time period necessary for storing the first image data and the second image data into the first memory.

In contrast, Anderson discloses to combine compressed image data with a thumbnail data and screen nail image data so as to create an image file, and transfer the created image file to a RAM disk, while Anderson fails to disclose or remotely suggest an intermittent writing of the first image data and a writing of the second image data at intervals of writing of the first image data.

Therefore, claim 37 patentably distinguishes over the prior are relied upon by reciting,

"A digital camera, comprising: an imaging device for imaging a subject and outputting first image data having a first resolution; a first writer for intermittently writing a first memory the first image data outputted from said imaging device; a generator for generating second image data having a second resolution which is lower than the first resolution based on the first image data outputted from said imaging device; and a second writer for writing the second image data generated by said generator to said first memory at intervals of writing by said first writer." (Emphasis Added)

Therefore, withdrawal of the rejection of Claims 13, 14, 21, 22 and 24 under 35 USC §102(e) as being anticipated by Anderson (U.S. Patent No. 5,933,137) is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections under 35 USC §103

Claims 23, 25, 26 and 33-36 are rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Anderson (U.S. Patent No. 5,933,137).

In light of the cancellation of claims 23, 25, 26, and 33-36 withdrawal of the rejection of Claims 23, 25, 26 and 33-36 under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Anderson (U.S. Patent No. 5,933,137) is respectfully requested.

Claims 15, 16, 18-20, 27, 28 and 30-32 are rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Anderson (U.S. Patent No. 5,933,137) in view of Parulski (U.S. Patent No. 5,138,454).

In light of the cancellation of claims 15, 16, 18-20, 27, 28 and 30-32 withdrawal of the rejection of Claims 15, 16, 18-20, 27, 28 and 30-32 under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Anderson (U.S. Patent No. 5,933,137) in view of Parulski (U.S. Patent No. 5,138,454) is respectfully requested.

Claims 17 and 29 are rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Anderson (U.S. Patent No. 5,933,137) in view of Parulski (U.S. Patent No. 5,138,454) and further in view of Ogawa et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,745,577).

In light of the cancellation of claims 17 and 29 withdrawal of the rejection of Claims 17 and 29 under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Anderson (U.S. Patent No. 5,933,137) in view of Parulski (U.S. Patent No. 5,138,454) and further in view of Ogawa et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,745,577) is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

In view of the aforementioned amendments and accompanying remarks, claims, as amended, are in condition for allowance, which action, at an early date, is requested.

If, for any reason, it is felt that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicant's undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

In the event that this paper is not timely filed, Applicant respectfully petitions for an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any fees for such an extension of time and any other fees which may be due with respect to this paper, to Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,

ARMSTRONG, WESTERMAN & HATTORI, LLP



George N. Stevens
Attorney for Applicants
Reg. No. 36,938

GNS/anp
Atty. Docket No. **990531**
Suite 1000
1725 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006
(202) 659-2930



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